

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0470

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM NATO
SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SEPT 30, WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT

AT THE 146TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, THE FIRST OF THE THIRTEENTH ROUND, WHICH WAS HELD ON SEPT 30TH UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF BELGIAN REP (SMOLDEREN), LUXEMBOURG REP (WINTER) AND CZECHOSLOVAK REP (MEISNER) DELIVERED THE ONLY FORMAL STATEMENTS. MEISNER'S PRESENTATION IS REPORTED BY SEPTTEL. IN HIS STATEMENT, WINTER CITED A NUMBER OF MAJOR ISSUES ON WHICH PROGRESS COULD BE MADE AND URGED GREATER EASTERN REALISM AND FLEXIBILITY TO THIS END. LUXEMBOURG REP PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO PURSUE THE DATA DISCUSSION ACTIVELY TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. THE MAIN POINTS OF WINTER'S PRESENTATION, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM, WERE:
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- 1) WESTERN PARTICIPANTS SEEK PROGRESS IN THE TALKS AND BELIEVE THAT, IF SUFFICIENT REALISM AND FLEXIBILITY IS DISPLAYED, IT CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THE NEW ROUND.
- 2) THE DATA DISCUSSION SHOULD CONTINUE IN ORDER TO SETTLE THE STILL UNRESOLVED LARGE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN

FIGURES ON EASTERN MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE AREA SINCE AGREED DATA IS A REQUIREMENT FOR AN AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS AND LIMITATIONS.

3) THE WEST HAS CONFIDENCE IN ITS FIGURES WHICH SHOW AN EASTERN SUPERIORITY OF MORE THAN 150,000 MEN AND WOULD POINT OUT THAT EASTERN ACTIONS PRIOR TO THE EAST'S TABLING OF DATA IN JUNE 1976 CLEARLY INDICATED EASTERN RECOGNITION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A SIZEABLE DISPARITY.

4) THE WEST HOPES THAT THE EAST IS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN DATA DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL.

5) NOW THAT THE EAST HAS ACKNOWLEDGED A SERIOUS DEFECT IN ITS NATIONAL CEILINGS PROPOSAL, IT SHOULD MOVE TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN PROPOSALS FOR COLLECTIVE CEILINGS TOGETHER WITH SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS ON US AND SOVIET MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE AREA.

6) EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF AN OUTCOME OF GENUINE PARITY BASED ON AGREED DATA, WHICH IS THE ONLY OUTCOME ACCEPTABLE TO THE WEST, WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD.

7) THE WEST CANNOT ACCEPT THE EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR ACROSS-THE-BOARD, EUQAL PERCENTAGE ARMAMENTS REDUCTIONS AS IT WOULD CONTRACTUALIZE EASTERN SUPERIORITIES AND BE UNMANAGEABLY COMPLEX.
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8) DURING THIS ROUND THE EAST SHOULD ENTER INTO A DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES SINCE POSTPONING SUCH A DISCUSSION COULD DELAY AN AGREEMENT.

9) THE ISSUE OF FLANK SECURITY SHOULD ALSO BE DEALT WITH POSITIVELY IN THIS ROUND.

10) THE EAST SHOULD MOVE TO TAKE PRACTICAL ACCOUNT IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE IMPACT OF GEOGRAPHY.

11) THE EAST HAS MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE ALTERATION TO THE UNACCEPTABLE OUTCOME IT HAS PROPOSED FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THEIR OUTSET.

12) THE WEST, IN CONTRAST, DISPLAYED GREAT FLEXIBILITY WITH ITS DECEMBER 1975 NUCLEAR OFFER.

13) THE EAST SHOULD GIVE WITNESS TO ITS PROFESSED DESIRE FOR PROGRESS IN THE TALKS IN CONCRETE TERMS BY MOVING ON THESE ISSUES AND, IN PARTICULAR, BY TABLING THE FURTHER DATA CALLED FOR IN THE WESTERN PROPOSAL OF JULY 15. RESOR

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